

DARIUSZ L. SZLACHTKO, PIOTR RUTKOWSKI, and JOANNA MYTNIK. 2005. **Contributions to the Taxonomic Revision of the Subtribes *Spiranthinae*, *Stenorrhynchidinae* and *Cyclopogoninae* (Orchidaceae) in Mesoamerica and the Antilles.** (ISBN 83-89648-18-0, pbk.; ISSN 0867-0730). Polish Botanical Studies 20. IB Publisher, Polish Academy of Sciences, W. Szafer Institute of Botany, Lubicz 46, PL-31-512 Krakow, POLAND. (Orders: ed-office@ib-pan.krakow.pl). Euro 90,00; ca. USD \$105.46, 387 pp. 646 figures (including maps, types, line drawings, and color plates), 17 × 24 cm.

This long-awaited publication by Szlachetko and his associates is a major contribution to the taxonomy and distribution of these three Spiranthoid subtribes. Treating 170 species in 35 genera, it is copiously illustrated with not only maps for each species but diagnostic morphological line drawings, photographs of type specimens, and a sprinkling of color plates and is an excellent reference for those interested in this particular group of orchids. Covering Mexico, Central America, and the Antilles many species are also found in the United States in Florida, southwestern Texas, southern New Mexico, and southeastern Arizona. Each genus is heavily referenced and although several newer genera and new combinations are used ten pages of cross-referenced synonyms are given.

There are two negative aspects of the volume. The lack of a general index, although the aforementioned synonyms are helpful in locating current treatments, requires going back and forth from the Table of Contents to the synonyms; the arrangements of genera and species is by subtribes and not alphabetical. Following what unfortunately appears to be a trend in publications on this region, when species are also found in the adjacent United States the information on them is either lacking or erroneous, primarily because it is based up work done more than 25 years ago. For some reason distributional work presented in several recent major North American publications works was not consulted.

Significant corrections that should be made concerning US distribution would include:

- Pages 14–17:** *Mesadenus polyanthus* (Reichenbach f.) Schlechter listed for USA and is not found here, whereas *M. lucayanus* (Britton) Schlechter is not listed for the USA and is present in Florida.
- Pages 146–153:** The treatment of *Sacoila squamulosa* at any rank or synonym is curiously missing. Szlachetko has treated in other publications as *S. lanceolata* var. *squamulosa*. It is present throughout much of the range of the work as well as in central Florida.
- Pages 209–210:** *Schiedeella fauci-sanguinea* (Dod) Burns-Balogh is listed erroneously for USA and figure 351 is *Schiedeella arizonica* P.M. Brown photographed by C. Luer in Arizona and known from the USA in southwestern Arizona and western Texas.
- Page 229:** *Funkiella confusa* (Garay) Szlachetko, Rutkowski, and Mytnik (syn. *Deiregyne confusa* Garay) omits USA (Texas) from the range whereas *F. durangensis* (Ames & C. Schweinfurth) Szlachetko on page 232 is listed for USA but does not occur there.
- Page 299:** *Cyclopogon elatus* (Swartz) Schlechter omits USA (Florida) from the range.
- Page 302:** *Cyclopogon cranichoides* (Grisebach) Schlechter omits USA (Florida) from the range.
- Page 313:** *Pelexia adnata* (Swartz) Poiteau ex Richard omits USA (Florida) from the range.

Supporting documentation for all of the above may be found in the appropriate generic treatments within the Orchidaceae, *Flora of North America*, volume 26.—Paul Martin Brown, Ocala, FL 34481 U.S.A., naorchid@aol.com